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THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS IN JAP. LOOT

Rightful Owners Unable To Substantiate Claims

Obvious Step Was Impracticable

(By Margaret Bradbury)

Because the rightful owners cannot substantiate their claims, many thousands of dollars worth of property still remains in charge of the Custodian of Property Department here—special-ly set up 12 months ago to deal with the disposal of Japanese commandeered goods and displaced material.

Day by day large and small stores of enemy-owned goods and looted merchandise are still being located in Hong Kong, together with goods held by servants and one time friends of the Japanese.

At the end of last year, goods valued roughly at one hundred and fifty million dollars were in the custody of this department which has tackled an immense and still uncompleted task.

When first plans were made for the repatriation of Hong Kong, in Stanley Camp in 1943, a Custodian of Property organisation was barely contemplated because the internees believed the Colony to be completely looted.

This was not the case, but, in actual fact, if the Japanese had put the contents of the Colony into a sack and emptied it over the whole area things could scarcely have been more involved.

The Japanese, in control for nearly four years, had seized goods, factories, furniture, vehicles and buildings and dealt with them all according to their indisputable will and with a complete disregard of law.

Haphazard Movements
Machinery was taken from one factory and installed in another. Cargo and other property was haphazardly moved from place to place.

When the Custodian's department was formed (of ex-internees, prisoners of war and local people) the entire staff worked from fourteen to sixteen hours a day, including Saturdays and Sundays.

Japanese internees who had been connected with business and factories were interrogated in order to obtain from them information about what had occurred to large quantities of goods, machinery and equipment.

During this time, looting continued wholesale but as a result of the Department's work, millions of dollars worth of property was saved for the Colony. Godowns were found to be full of stores, as well as warehouses and shops spread over the Colony, and from the point of view of establishing ownership, the position seemed almost impossible.

The Chinese carried out an extensive decentralisation scheme whereby shell manufacturers and engineering units complete with motors were installed in British A.R.P. tunnels, while cargo oil, army stores and ammunition were stored in extensive tunnels in Hong Kong and Kowloon. Private houses and specially dug holes in the ground were also used as dispersal storage godowns.

Full Of Loot
All cargo in commercial godowns was seized by the Japanese and a liquidation scheme on the general average principle enforced on the non-British owners of the goods. Certain payments were made on account in military yen which had little relation to the value of the cargo.

The contents of several godowns were full of loot taken from British shops, factories, hotels, public utilities and parts of electric light works. Machinery weighing some sixty tons were discovered in Chinese shops which had been completely bricked up.

The obvious thing for the Custodian department to have done as soon as our Forces arrived, was to move the goods from the dispersal areas into the warehouse areas where the problem of security would have been easier. But the tremendous quantity of property and stores involved and the total lack of transport and

limited staff made this impracticable.

Dumps Sealed

Work was concentrated on locating and sealing the various warehouses, transport stores, tunnels, dumps and other storage spots with the help of Service personnel and police authorities who guarded these areas during the critical period when any relaxation would have been the signal for wholesale looting.

The checking of goods, obtaining identity marks and the publication of this information in order that owners may claim their property is still being done by the now enlarged staff of 350 people employed by the Department.

A large quantity of property has been successfully reclaimed and handed over to the owners but a certain amount necessarily had to be requisitioned by the Services.

Many enemy real estate properties have been located recently, it having been discovered in some cases that Chinese had sold to the Japanese. One or two of these occurrences have been admitted and others disputed.

As all records of the Custodian were lost in 1941, great difficulty is experienced in tracing assets which came under the control of the prewar Custodian.

U.S. Foreign Policy

Washington, Oct. 22.

Mr. James F. Byrnes said tonight that discussions on the Palestine problem were still being handled exclusively by Mr. Attlee and President Truman with the State Department's part confined to channelling communications.

Mr. Byrnes, told correspondents today he would be willing to return to Europe with the Council of Foreign Ministers after the United Nations General Assembly meeting if M. Molotov agreed to full discussion of the German and Austrian peace treaties.

Mr. Byrnes said that the funds available for foreign loans in the Import-Export Bank were running low and that it was natural for the United States to favour with what was left those governments friendly and sympathetic to her.

Referring specifically to the recently suspended loans to Czechoslovakia, Mr. Byrnes said the State Department had concluded that Czechoslovakia's need was not so great as had been originally represented since the Prague Government had re-lent \$2,500,000 worth of surplus property and credit to Rumania contrary to the terms of agreement.—Reuter.

FRANCO DECREE

Madrid, Oct. 23.

General Franco decreed yesterday that his Government will be the sole purchaser of all grain and legume crops in the 1947-1948 season. This year, the Government had permitted 35 per cent of these crops to be sold privately, although maximum prices were fixed.—Associated Press.

AIR LINES STRIKE

Shannon Airport, Oct. 23. Passengers, including UNO delegates, stranded by the pay protest strike of Trans-world Airlines pilots, have been got away to New York, an official of the company at Shannon Airport said today. He added:—

There are to be more flights from our European end until the strike is settled. We have one plane on each airport. A specially chartered plane, piloted by officials of our airline, took 19 UNO delegates from Paris and here, and we got others away in a B.O.A.C. aircraft.—Reuter.

HK SEAMEN "STRIKE"

Sydney, Oct. 23.

Forty-seven Chinese seamen in the British ship "Hickory Glen" yesterday staged a sit-down strike in the shipping office of G. S. Yuill and Company, Sydney, in an effort to obtain the suspension of the ship's officers.

The Chinese were finally forcibly taken by 30 policemen to a police station, where they staged another sit-down strike before moving to a Chinese club. The Chinese alleged that they had been assaulted by the officers and that the conditions on board the ship were comparable to those on a "slave ship". The officers strongly denied the charges.

The "Hickory Glen" arrived in Sydney from Hongkong on October 7.—Reuter.

DESTROYER HITS MINE

On Board H.M.S.

Mauritius, Oct. 22.

The British destroyer Saumarez, which struck a mine today in the channel between Corfu and Albania immediately settled down by the bows with oil fuel burning on board.

The Saumarez, still on fire, was being towed stern first to Corfu by the Volage, when the Volage also struck a mine.

The Saumarez, with the destroyer Mauritius, had left Corfu this morning steaming northwards for the Corfu Straits and the Adriatic with the ships Leander and Volage two miles astern.

Uncleared minefields in the area restricted navigation in the straits to a channel about a mile wide off the Albanian shore.

The Admiralty announced later today that casualties had occurred aboard the Saumarez.—Reuter.

THE WEATHER

The anticyclone over China continues to lose intensity. Pressure is low in a trough extending from the southern part of the China Sea northward across the Northern Philippines to Central Japan. At 3 p.m. the typhoon was centred 600 miles NE of Manila moving NNE at 15 knots.

Forecast:—Light to moderate NE winds, predominating. Weather continuing fine.

KNITTING WOOL "RATION"

Some of the important retail shops dealing in piece goods and general merchandise are now attaching price tags to commodities on display. These are shops which have agreed to cooperate in full with the Government to assist in cutting prices to the minimum.

Government hopes that the public will support them to the utmost. The step taken is a drastic break from the old established custom of bargaining and in taking such a step they risk losing customers, especially Chinese, who believe that in bargaining, they are getting prices below those of other shops.

This is not necessarily the case. The prices displayed in the windows facilitate checking by Price Control Inspectors who are kept familiar with landed costs and percentages of profit allowed. For this reason, many shops refuse to co-operate with Government by displaying price labels and those doing so must of necessity display low prices. These prices are subject to almost daily checks and retail prices are varied according to the wishes of Government.

A very large number of commodities now being imported are subject to control, even though these prices are in many cases not gazetted, and Government can at any stage, instruct retailers at what price they may sell.

If firms co-operating with Government are to sell at these prices, however, bargaining must cease. The question now is whether or not the public will co-operate. This departure from old custom will fail if the public persist in the bargaining habit instead of buying from the shops which display the cheapest prices.

Not Minimum

It does not mean, of course, that the prices displayed are the absolute minimum at which shops can sell but such prices are much below those so far asked in retail shops.

Some of the prices at present may appear to be high but Government realizes that many commodities at present on display have been purchased at high prices and that it would not be fair to insist upon such commodities being sold at a loss to the firms concerned. As new stocks arrive, however, the firms will bring about voluntary cuts in prices and Government will be in a position to enforce scales more in line with reasonable margins of profit.

This new proposal may be regarded as the first step in bringing about a drastic cut in the present excessive charges.

In a recent and final appeal to all the more important retail shops dealing in piece goods and general merchandise, only a very small percentage agreed upon full co-operation with Government and these shops have since proved that they can and will co-operate. The names of the shops concerned are published below and Government wishes to express its satisfaction with their willing and voluntary co-operation.

Co-Operators

Wing On Co. Ltd., 213, Des Voeux Road, C.
Elite Styles, China Building.
The Mayfair Co. Ltd., China Building.
Dragon Seed Co., 37, Queen's Road, C.
Lucille, 18, Queen's Road, C.
Lane, Crawford, Ltd., Exchange Building.
Whiteaway, Laidlaw Co. Ltd., Des Voeux Road, C.
Cheong Hing, 53, Nathan Rd.
Oriental Silk Store, 63, Nathan Road.

One Lb. Per Card
Government stocks of knitting wool should be ample for all requirements and it is requested that the public co-operate by not rushing the shops concerned. The wool in the first instance will be distributed on a rationed basis of 1 lb. for every ration card presented.

Column "I" on the ration cards presented will be marked accordingly, indicating that 1 lb. of knitting wool has been issued to the holder of that card. Supplies are for the present being issued only to the shops named as having already proved willing to co-operate with Government.

The rationing scheme will reduce the likelihood of the resale of knitting wool on the black market. Increases in the ration are probable at a later date when preliminary supplies have been distributed and the danger of a black market has been reduced.

'Sentence Of Death' Cancelled

Jerusalem, Oct. 22.

A caller who did not give his name rang up the Reuters office in Tel-Aviv today and read the text of the Jewish "underground broadcast" which was to be given one hour later.

The message said: "The sentence of death has been carried out on Inspector William Bruce of the Palestine police on October 17 on his conviction by a 'special court of Jewish resistance' trying those accused of torturing and ill-treating Jews."

Inspector Bruce, whose home was in London was in fact shot and killed by gunmen in Jaffa Road—Jerusalem's High Street—in full view of a bus queue.

Ten minutes after the first call came the same voice rang up and said the broadcast had been cancelled and advised that the first message should not be used.—Reuter.

Knitting Wool

One such instance is that of knitting wool and Government has now decided to distribute its own ample supplies. The following arrangements have been made regarding its distribution for sale.

On the days stipulated and commencing from official opening hours on Thursday, the 24th October, supplies of Government knitting wool will be on sale at the following stores:—

Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays:
Wing On Co. Ltd., 213, Des Voeux Road, C.
Elite Styles, China Building.
Dragon Seed Co., 37, Queen's Road, C.
Lane, Crawford, Ltd., Exchange Building.
Cheong Hing, 53, Nathan Road.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays:
The Mayfair Co. Ltd., China Building.
Lucille, 18, Queen's Road, C.
Whiteaway, Laidlaw Co. Ltd., Des Voeux Road, C.
Oriental Silk Store, 63, Nathan Road.

Petition To The Governor

The "China Mail" understands that there are pending petitions to His Excellency the Governor-in-Council pleading for 'amplification of the Indemnity and Validating Ordinance, 1946.'

The petitions, the "China Mail" learns plead for the passing of an Ordinance envisaged by Section 7 (c) of the Ordinance that would permit the petitioners to take legal proceedings against the Custodian of Property.

The petitioners claim, irrespective of whether the petitioners have a rightful claim or not against the Custodian and irrespective, again, whether they would fail or succeed in their claim in a Court of Law, that all Government Officials or Departments should not be free, in dealings with the general public, from the restraining influence of a Court of Law and that therefore the Ordinance should be passed giving the petitioners, as well as the general public, legal redress against the Custodian of Property.

In as much as many members of the public have viewed with concern the denial of public and individual rights contained in the said Ordinance, reply to these petitions is awaited with considerable interest.

French Black Market

Paris, Oct. 22.

The Ring Wing newspaper "Epoque" said today that the French Food Minister M. Yves Farge, was "legalizing the Black Market" by his order yesterday regarding meat rationing and price control.

As the threat of empty butchers' shops hung over large centres like Paris and Lyons on the first day of the restored rationing, the Paris newspapers prominently featured the possibility of cattle being kept on the farms and not sent to the market. Although the new anti-Black Market laws instituted by M. Farge authorised the official requisition of livestock if farmers refuse to sell at ceiling prices, they apply only when livestock has been brought to the markets.

The Moderate "Libre Soir" headlined the fact that there were only 600 head of cattle in the main Paris market of La Villette as against 7,500 a week ago.

The Communist "Humanite" asked if M. Farge would let the farmers who are hoarding cattle get away with it.

To-day the retail ceiling is about eight shillings for two pounds of "special cuts" while ordinary cuts cost about half that amount.—Reuter.

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HONGKONG-MANILA ... Friday 25th Oct.
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A. R. RUSHFORD,
Squadron Leader, RAFVR,
Hon. Secretary, H.K.S.E.C.

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ATOMIC CONTROLS

Mr. Attlee rightly described the Government's Atomic Energy Bill, debated in the Commons, as "exceptional legislation," and the support given it on behalf of the Opposition by Mr. Law afforded clear recognition of its necessity. If the control of research into nuclear fission is to be internationalised, it is clearly an essential first step to take it into Governmental hands. The vast sums involved—the Government suggests £30,000,000 as the cost of work at present envisaged—would in themselves imply Government supervision, even if the whole question were not so closely linked with the problem of national defence. Thus no desire exists in any quarter to query the principle of a Government monopoly of atomic development, provided that this is not interpreted as a ban upon the research and theoretical teaching which are bound to go forward wherever higher physics is seriously studied. There is no reason to believe that the Bill is intended to be used for the negative purpose of restricting advances in atomic research in Britain. How far the Government are progressing positively in fostering research depends not on the Bill, but on the use they make of their powers under it. For the present, and apparently for some time to come, it is the destructive aspects rather than constructive possibilities of atomic energy which must preoccupy the public mind. The ordinary citizen, however, must comfort himself, as best he may, with the hope that his own Government and the Governments of other nations will eventually establish such controls as will fulfil their responsibilities to mankind.

NO RE-TRIAL

No sanction should be given to the agitation being fomented for a re-trial before a German court of the three men acquitted at Nuernberg. They were fairly tried before an international court of unimpeachable impartiality and unequalled authority. For them to appear afresh before a German tribunal would imply that the great assize which heard this case over a period of months had less validity than a national court. Those whom the Nuernberg court condemned to death might equally have claimed by such a precedent to appeal over the heads of the Allied Powers to their own fellow-countrymen. Were the three men who were acquitted now to appear before a bench of German judges they would in reality be arraigned for fostering a regime that has brought Germany to collapse. Their most vehement accusers are their political enemies, similarly inspired to those extremists of the Left who in liberated Europe have repeatedly and frankly demanded that hatred and revenge rather than justice should be heard. Acquittal should be accepted as such, and the men concerned be allowed to merge into the obscurity which must be their place in any sane Germany.

Russia's Atomic Plan

New York, Oct. 23. Professor S. P. Alexandrov, Soviet delegate to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission, has put forward a proposal to control atomic energy at its source, by instituting a world survey of uranium deposits. The proposal was made before the Atomic Energy Commission's No. 2 (Political) Committee. Professor Alexandrov recommended that a world survey be held to determine where deposits of uranium might be found and mined profitably. In this first proposal from the Soviet Union suggesting a means of controlling atomic energy at its source, Professor Alexandrov said that the Soviet's own state-owned mines were already classified for uranium possibilities.—Associated Press.

Negotiators Spar For Position

Nanking, Oct. 23. Chinese Government and Communist negotiators turned their peace meeting into a sparring match for position yesterday. Meantime, the Government pressed their preparations to administer the areas seized from the Reds. General George C. Marshall and the U.S. Ambassador, Dr. Leighton Stuart, resuming their active roles, conferred with minority Party leaders whose proposals succeeded in bringing the Communist negotiator, General Chou En-lai, back to Nanking.

The Reds clung stubbornly to their demands for the restoration of territory the Government had seized since January, a truce and for acceptance of political pacts which never were put into effect.

Wang Ping-nan said that his Party's maximum concessions are acceptance of these agreements "which are far from the terms the Government delegates are willing to accept."

The Supreme National Defence Council, outlined the Government policies for the areas captured from the Communists, outlawed Communist currency as "illegally issued banknotes." Another measure restores lands seized by the Communists to their original owners.

National Assembly

In Shanghai, the Government began mobilising resources of China's two civil air transport lines to carry the delegates to Nanking for the National Assembly scheduled to open there on November 12. The Communists and Chinese Minority Parties have announced that they will not send delegates unless peace is restored.—Associated Press.

Wedemeyer's View

Philadelphia, Oct. 23. Lieutenant General Albert Wedemeyer said that he believes the Chinese people want peace, but "certain forces in China want power and are willing to insist on power at the expense of peace."

The general, who recently headed Army operations in China, did not identify these forces.

He expressed great confidence in Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek and said that the Chinese leaders had turned down a number of "attractive offers" from the Japanese to make a separate peace which would have been disastrous to the United States.—Associated Press.

Monte Carlo Strike

Monte Carlo, Oct. 23. The croupiers and dealers sit-down strike at the fashionable Monte Carlo casino, entered its fourth day yesterday with both management and personnel firmly maintaining their respective positions.

The casino orchestra on Monday night gave a concert for the entertainment of the strikers, who demand that their salaries be increased by 35 per cent.

The local authorities are trying hard to solve the crisis, since the casino is the main, if not the only, source of income of the little state of Monaco whose inhabitants pay no taxes.—Associated Press.

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"And I expect to have only a short visit home—just time enough to straddle an issue or so!"

Secret Is --- Where Are They?

London, Oct. 21. Completely ladder-proof stockings, fully-fashioned and made of silk, are being produced in Britain.

They look the same as ordinary hose, susceptible to laddering, but the secret is all in the "tying-up of the loop," according to the "Textile Bulletin."

Production is only in the experimental stage as, although the patent was taken out in 1939, war held up production.

Meanwhile, four new ways of helping women in the choice of stockings and underwear are recommended in the report of the Hosiery Working Party to the Government. They are:

1. Standard sizes for stockings—at present they vary slightly from manufacturer to manufacturer.

2. Leg lengths marked on the stockings as well as foot sizes.

3. Standards of "shrink resistance" for all stockings and underwear.

4. Estimated shrinkage or stretching after washing and instructions for washing, to be marked.—Reuter.

G.O.C.'s NEW POST

London, Oct. 22.

Major-General F. W. Festing, General Officer Commanding Hong Kong, is to succeed Major-General G. H. A. MacMillan as Director of Weapons and Development at the War Office on February 1, 1947, it was officially announced today.

General MacMillan is to succeed Lieutenant-General Sir Evelyn H. Barker as General Officer, Commander-in-Chief of British troops in Palestine.—Reuter.

Malaya Grievances Of Paratroopers

London, Oct. 22. The main cause of bad conditions at Muar Camp in Malaya, where 243 British paratroopers were court-martialled on a charge of mutiny recently, was, according to the War Minister, Captain Frederick Bellenger in the House of Commons today, that certain necessary engineering work had not been completed by the time the main body of the 13th Parachute Battalion arrived.

Capt Bellenger, who was replying to a question, said he had now studied the proceedings of the court of inquiry. The bad conditions, he said, were due to a combination of circumstances, including: (a) shortage of engineer labour and materials; (b) insufficient effort on the part of the outgoing battalion to improve the camp and to draw attention to the deficiencies; (c) a shortage of Brigade Staff in Malaya due to heavy commitments in Java which led to overwork and to errors of procedure in obtaining engineering assistance; (d) errors of judgment on the part of the Brigade Staff and the officer-in-charge of the battalion advance party, and the failure to

realise the urgency of the matter; (e) failure to appreciate the full implications of the changeover from war to peace conditions and the standards which occurred at this time; (f) heavy rain which coincided with the arrival of the battalion at Muar and which flooded the tents and the ground to unprecedented degrees.

"In all the circumstances I consider that no specific blame, calling for disciplinary action, can be attached to any individual."

Sir Waldron Smithers (Conservative) asked Captain Bellenger what amount of foodstuffs and soap had to be destroyed at Singapore by the NAAFI/ERI owing to poor storage and exposure to the weather, and what was the consequent loss to the British taxpayer.

Captain Bellenger replied: "I have no knowledge of any such destruction at Singapore owing to poor storage and exposure to the weather, but I have called for a report. No loss would fall on public funds in the circumstances stated by the Honourable Member."—Reuter.

RICE RUSH

Batavia, Oct. 23.

Prices of rice and other commodities rose from 100 to 700 per cent yesterday as the Chinese rushed to spend their Japanese "banana money" before the October 31 deadline for its redemption.

The price of rice rose from 11 to as high as 80 Japanese Guilders a litre. A Japanese Guilder is now exchangeable for Dutch Guilders at the rate of 33 to one, making its value about one half penny.—Associated Press.

PROTEST STRIKE

Stuttgart, Oct. 22.

All Stuttgart tramways, factories and shops closed down today in a 15-minute general strike endorsed by the leaders of all political parties as a protest against last Saturday's bomb explosions outside the de-Nazification courts, believed to have been staged as a demonstration against the "purge laws."—Reuter.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE

Mr. Bevin Covers Wide Field In The Commons

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GEORGE HAYES

TO-MORROW

at the
ALHAMBRA
and
CENTRAL

Demilitarisation Of Japan

London, Oct. 23.
Speaking in the foreign affairs debate in the House of Commons today, Mr. Ernest Bevin declared that Japan and Germany must never be allowed to revive their aggressive policies again.

"The physical de-militarisation of Japan is complete," he said. "The task ahead is to see that the Japanese have neither the resource nor the desire to tread the path of aggression again. We are anxious to conclude an enduring peace with Japan."

He said one encouraging sign today was in Indonesia and declared: "Our troops will be out of Indonesia finally on November 30, and I have every hope that by that date a settlement will have been reached."

Of Persia, Mr. Bevin said: "I am very anxious that smaller Governments should never fall victim of any difference of opinion by large ones. We wish to see Persia united in maintaining her independence, free from foreign interference and progressing steadily to a higher standard of life. If this is observed by all countries this area will be kept clear of any possible conflict."

Referring to the Russian demand for a base in the Dardanelles, he said the British Government had made it clear that, in their view, if this was adopted "it would involve unwarranted interference with the sovereignty of Turkey."

The Montreux Convention required modification, he added, but the British Government was anxious to keep the international aspect of this always in view.

"Our view is that the direct exchange of views provided by the Potsdam Agreement has come to an end, but that any further discussions should take place at an international conference called for the purpose. If such conference is called, the British Government will be glad to attend and strive hard for a solution."

British Empire

Dealing with the propaganda against the British Empire, Mr. Bevin declared: "I think our steadfastness and patience are bringing their reward. These attacks do not all come from one source."

On Greece, the Foreign Secretary declared: "We have done our best to re-create the country. We will not desert her after the great comradeship that has existed between us. We shall pursue our policy of trying to assist her economically as well. Outside interference with Greece must stop."

He denied there was any interference by Britain in Greek affairs and added: "We shall get our troops out of Greece as early as possible."

Turning to the problem of Egypt, Mr. Bevin said that Britain was handicapped in the negotiations by Egypt's internal political difficulties. "The suggestion that we want to ex-

loit or suppress the peoples of the Middle East was sheer nonsense," he declared.

Other Points

Mr. Bevin's other points were:

Agreement on Germany is at once the touchstone of relations between the Four Powers and our opportunity to build a lasting peace. Britain was in almost complete agreement with recent statements by Generalissimo Stalin and Mr. Byrnes, but was not prepared to carry out parts of the Potsdam Agreement unfavourable to her while other parts were unfulfilled.

We are ready to place our troops at the disposal of the Security Council during the transition period while the fundamental structure of Trieste is being organised.

Paris Conference—"There has been an attempt to use the conference as a forum for propaganda and some have taken the opportunity to level frivolous charges against others. The conference had led to the conclusion that there is division between the East and the West. Such division must, and I am sure can, be prevented."

The world had to find a settlement on a comprehensive basis to prevent a further catastrophe. The forthcoming General Assembly of the United Nations in New York must show its readiness to recognise the legitimate interests of others and subordinate national interests to the common good.

He wanted to see political conditions which would prevent a revival of German aggression. German industry had an important part to play in the European economy. It was not the British intention that it should be further crippled, except insofar as it might endanger security.

After giving a summary of what the Polish Provisional Government was to do regarding free and unfettered elections, Mr. Bevin said: "We see no reason why we should finally ratify the cession of a vast territory to Poland without being satisfied that these assurances have been fully carried out. We also wish to be assured that the Poles are able to develop their territory so that it does not become a wilderness from which the Germans have been expelled and the Poles were not capable of populating."

In conclusion, Mr. Bevin said Britain's role was not to be an

CIO Strike Agreement

New York, Oct. 23.
The United States Government conciliator, Frederick Livingston, announced in New York yesterday that leaders of the Congress of Industrial Organizations Marine Engineers Beneficial Association and the East and Gulf Coast shipping operators had signed an agreement to settle the 22-day old maritime strike.

Livingston said the contract would take effect as soon as it had been ratified by the Union membership, the shipping companies, and representatives of the agents and operators.

The contract was signed after 13 and a half hours of negotiations, and several hours after the operators and representatives of the American Federation of Labour Masters, Mates and Pilots Union—the other Union engaged in the strike—had failed to come to terms.—Associated Press.

intermediary as had been suggested in some quarters. Britain had her own contribution to make to world peace, and the United States and Russia had theirs.

"We place our proposals on the table and ask for discussion on their merits. We are not ganging up with anybody, either on one side or the other. Our approach to peace is not on that footing."

"I would ask the House to appreciate the conditions under which peace-makers are working. Hanging over them are terrific inventions of science, atomic energy, bacteriological warfare, rockets and all other devilish devices for the destruction of human life and with it all suspicion and fear that it creates pervades the conference room."

"There is only one effective antidote to it all, and it is to be found in policy which will establish confidence, settle outstanding political and territorial difficulties between nations, introduce new relations and make necessary for the use of all these devices so remote that the whole world can begin to think and act in an atmosphere of peace and confidence."

"Therefore, upon the great powers in particular, and upon the smaller powers as well, rests at this moment a terrible responsibility."

"Great Britain is a great power. She set the example in the Commonwealth, where union and liberty have been able to march together hand in hand, with the bond strengthened more and more as liberty increased. She is entitled to ask that that great experiment be examined by the rest of the world. Her sacrifices—in the two wars for freedom and liberty and her ability to practise it in war and peace entitle her to a proper place and adequate consideration of her views in the councils of nations. She cannot and will not be dismissed."—Reuter.

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Rice Shop Manager Charged

The manager of the Chung Wah Rice Shop, Tsang Cheong-kuen, was charged before Mr. George She at the Central Magistracy yesterday, with possession of a platform weighing machine which was false and unjust.

Mr. M. A. da Silva appeared for the defence.

Sub-Inspector W. Gowans, in evidence, stated that he visited defendant's shop at No. 63, Queen's Road East at about 4 p.m. on September 9. He examined a compound platform weighing machine and found the beam read in pounds had been converted to weigh in catties by changing the bush piece and placing a heavier one on the beam.

The counter piece became lighter, and closer examination showed a piece of iron bar on the counter-piece. When he removed the bar and tested the beam at zero, the machine failed to balance.

He placed a one-catty official weight on the platform and found that necessary to move the piece to one and a half catties before the beam would balance.

Not Right

A shop assistant made a statement that with the piece of iron on the cup and the container on the platform, it would balance the beam. He told the assistant that it could not be accepted as the right method. He tested the scale with the piece of iron and the container on the platform, and found the scale still read 12 catty against the purchaser.

On the morning of September 10, and in the presence of the defendant, the scales were again tested with the same results.

In cross-examination by Mr. Silva, witness said there was another set of balance scales (Chinese style) in the shop, which he understood was bought from the Government. It was available to anyone who queries the weight on the shop's weighing machine.

(Continued at foot of next Col.)

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WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Responsibility Of Master At Issue

"One of the most cold-blooded mass murders in history" was the description of prosecuting officer, Major P. A. L. Vine, R.M., of the actions of the Japanese during the sinking of the Lisbon Maru, with the loss of 846 British and Canadian POWs from Hongkong, when opening the case against Kyoda Shigeru, captain of the vessel, yesterday.

The prosecution alleged that Kyoda, responsible for the safety of POWs, was concerned in battenning them in the holds after the vessel had been torpedoed on October 1, 1942.

The Court comprises Lt. Col. R. C. Laming (President), Maj. J. T. Loranger and Lt. Cmdr. J. de G. Lamotte, R.N. Maj. P. A. L. Vine, R.M., is prosecuting and the accused is defended by Takehashi Mikio with Capt. P. E. Kostiloff as adviser.

Major Vine, in his opening address said: The verdict which you reach will be closely studied not only here in Hong Kong but in Singapore and Tokyo. The Admiralty is deeply concerned, since the issues are concerned with the fundamental responsibility of a Master of a vessel for the lives and safety of all aboard. This responsibility is not essential to the prosecution, but it will affect very considerably the relative guilt of the accused compared with other persons who are not before you.

Out of usage has grown the position of the Master Mariner in absolute command of his ship. From the days of the early Phoenician traders until now the role of Master Mariner has grown in responsibility and become clearer. The dangers of the sea require that there should be one person to make ultimate decisions about his ship, one person who can be held responsible for ensuring the safety of passengers and crew. All nations sending their ships upon the ocean highways are bound by the usages of the sea. Many usages have lost their capacity for further growth and have become hardened into Statute law by International Convention. Some of the more elemental matters never having been in dispute have not reached the statute book. Amongst these matters is the role of a Master Mariner.

The rapid rise of military might increased the power of the Army to the detriment of all classes of civilians, and particularly of the prisoners of war.

There was no complaint against this shop as regards to shortage of weight.

After hearing submissions by Silva, that it was only a technical offence, Mr. She cautioned the defendant.

Fundamental Responsibility

But whilst the immediate control of army personnel passed out of the hands of the Master, not even the most ardent militarist could argue that the Master had lost his fundamental responsibility for the lives and safety of all on board. The Army Commandant could not dabble in matters of navigation, nor could he order the Master, an expert at his job, to take any course of action in the event of a maritime emergency. It would be ludicrous to suggest that circumstances could ever arise in which the professional would be justified in taking orders from the amateur in matters concerned with the safety of those in his ship. Apart from this fundamental responsibility for all aboard, the Master did, in fact, remain in absolute and immediate control of his own crew. The accused will argue that at the time of the sinking of the Lisbon Maru he was neither the Captain of his fate nor the Master of his soul. I am sure you will discard this ingenious explanation for his part in one of the most cold-blooded mass murders in history.

The facts will emerge quite clearly in the evidence, and I shall touch but lightly on them here.

The prisoners were imprisoned

BUILDING DEVELOPMENT

At to-day's meeting of the Legislative Council, the Hon. Mr. R. D. Gillespie will ask the following question:—

Is Government aware that the delay in recommending the disposition of Crown Land by auction or by private treaty is seriously retarding building development in the Colony; and will Government state its future policy with regard to Crown Lands suitable for building sites?

In the holds of a sinking ship, half suffocated by lack of air, many already drowned—many without life jackets and with no boats to use if an escape was made. Maintaining an utterly callous disregard for their fate, the Master did not signal the captain of the rescue party for instructions regarding the evacuation of the prisoners. He must have been well aware that the ship was doomed, and it became more and more apparent that the battenning down was part of a larger plot to send every one of the prisoners of war to a watery grave. It was evident to those Prisoners of War whose senses were not numbed that the ship would sink and when the list reached 15 deg. some of those in the 2nd Hold managed to break through the hatch covers. They were fired upon by the guard and forced to retire. It was then about 8.45 a.m. on October 2. At about this time a few of the prisoners, risking the small arms fire, managed to escape. The Commander of the rescue party sent a small ship alongside to take off guards and crew. There was a quite natural confusion in the events which occurred around 9 a.m. Suffice it to say that the ship was in immediate peril of sinking, and the senior Prisoner of War officer passed the order "every man for himself." It was too late to save the sick men, many of whom had already been drowned in the rising water. There were few survivors from No. 3 Hold. It is difficult to determine how each hatch cover came to be opened. The decks were nearly awash and the prisoners stepped into the water.

The Master allowed his own crew to evacuate the ship at a time when the Prisoners of War were either still battenning down or held back by fear of further small arms fire. At no time did he display the slightest evidence that he disapproved or disassociated himself with the policy adopted.

Murderous Plan

Many hundreds of prisoners died as a result of this murderous plan. He is charged specifically with those events in which he played a personal part. First the battenning down of the prisoners, secondly his negligent failure to arrange for the ships' boats to pick up the survivors. There were the acts or omissions with which the accused as Master had a direct connection, and formed part of the more general conspiracy of murder. The accused stands before you on trial for his part in the suffocation and death by drowning of hundreds of prisoners, and the causing of great suffering to many others.

Sergt. Chin, who fell ill while giving evidence, was assisted from the witness box by Commando guards and sent to Hospital by ambulance.

Yokota Minoru, Master of the Kishima Maru, who was then called, said that, in the event of an emergency on board a ship transporting troops, it was the duty of the Captain to inform the O.C. troops of the condition of the ship. He did not know much about regulations concerning the transport of naval and military personnel. If it was found necessary to abandon ship, responsibility for the passengers on board rested with the Captain, but in cases where Army personnel were transferred, the O.C. Troops was specially in charge of those troops.

Hypothetical Case

The President then put the hypothetical case of a man falling overboard and the duty of the Captain in such an event.

Readers' Letters

Nickel Coins

Sir,—You mentioned something that was of considerable importance to Hongkong a few days back—nickel coins—but so far there has been no response from the public.

Sure, we want our nickel coins back! Now that a long year has gone by, it is high time that something be done about it.

These filthy bits of rubbish that pass for money, 1, 5, 10 cents, besides being unsightly (liable to be gone with the gusts when buying ticket in a truck-bus) and illusive (short change due to hard to count), contribute a great deal to the cheapening of money. I have seen many people getting rid of them as if they were so much trash, which in fact they are. Our old nickel coins were decidedly better. Coins similar to that are more worthy to be tokens of money.

Here is a suggestion. Since the Hongkong dollar is only 1/3, why not coin nickel dollars a trifle bigger than the proposed British shillings? The old heavy plates will never do! The look and feel of these nickel dollar coins will greatly enhance the value and facilitate the handling of Hongkong currency. In fact, the present indignation of silver dollar coins is literally rotten enough.

As it appears that we can no longer have gold and silver, we want our coins in nickel; not paper or cardboard, as mentioned by some funny man, but nickel—cupra-nickel.

O. YEH.

Democracy

Sir,—The more we read of your impartial and unbiased paper, the more we come to knowledge in respect of China's democracy. These are chiefly due to advances of political knowledge embedded in the people's mind after the past 35 years of hard test, not because of the "Tutelage" as alleged by Hsieh Chih-Chung who might have stepped into the same shoes as those disillusioned officials in China, who have earned for themselves a worldly treasure.

The lengthy and clear-cut letter by Kai-shin Kwei, deplores the attention of our people and our Allied friends who might have been embedded with one-sided opinion or information, albeit the eyes of the World will never be closed by works of temporary propaganda.

What China is today confronting, was exactly what the Germans were expecting; everything to be good by following Hitlerism in the early year of 1941! Will China's fate be that of Germany, depending wholly on what guidance the massive population takes to the good turn of his country, and this, we hope, will be made known before long, after the convention of the People's Council in November next.

NON-KUOMINTANG.

Soup

Sir,—I have been informed that if one is sadly deprived, soup tastes infinitely better if

"MOSQUITO" NEWSPAPER SUMMONS

Tang Kwan-ngai, printer of the Chinese mosquito newspaper "Yu Lok," at No. 56, Lyndhurst Terrace, was summoned before Mr. George She yesterday, for failing to furnish particulars to the Registrar of Chinese newspapers, and failing to deliver a copy of the newspaper to the Registrar daily.

Tang Chit, editor of the "Yu Lok," was summoned for the same offence.

Both defendants pleaded guilty.

First defendant was fined \$200, while second defendant was fined \$250.

The "publisher and proprietor," Tang Chi-hoi, pleaded not guilty, and stated that he was not connected with the newspaper.

His case was adjourned for a week.

Witness replied that the master would be responsible for saving the man's life, notwithstanding any orders of the O.C. Troops to the contrary. Anything said by the O.C. Troops to the master of the ship would be regarded in the nature of advice only and it would be up to the master himself whether to act on such advice or not.

Under cross-examination, witness said that his answers covered the responsibilities of a ship's Captain in peace and in war. In war-time, a civilian could not give orders to a military man. The crew of a vessel requisitioned by the military would come under the control of the military and become attached to the Army.

Hearing was then adjourned till 10 a.m. today.

taken with a dessert spoon, or, if utterly shameless, through a straw. Could any of your Non-Commissioned Gourmets confirm this please.

FAIR PLAY.

Answer To Correspondent

H. S. Kwok: The status of Sir Thomas Jackson was restored on Monday night. A news item to this effect appeared on Page 1, Col. 2, of Tuesday's "China Mail."

CROWN WITNESS REBUKED

One of the Crown witnesses testifying in the trial of Wong Fuk-chau, charged with collaboration, was severely reprimanded for telling lies and told to leave the witness box without completing his evidence by Mr. Justice E. H. Williams, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday.

Opening the case for the Crown, Mr. Lonsdale said that after the fall of Hong Kong, accused was appointed by the Japanese to become the Head of Tam Kwei Village in New Territories. Accused did not stop there, added Mr. Lonsdale, but went further to help the Japanese voluntarily in the search of escaped British soldiers; in investigations against guerrilla activities; and in the formation of a "Defence Corps" among the villagers.

Lau Hing-yau, a second hand goods dealer in Tam Kwei Village, told the Court that on one occasion he saw accused beating up a prisoner arrested by the Japanese Gendarmes. On another occasion, he saw him in the company of a group of Japanese engaged in a search for escaped British soldiers.

Li Sheung, a member of the Japanese Gendarmerie at Un Long, said that he knew accused was a general assistant to the Japanese Gendarmerie and that he was the man who gave him orders to investigate into guerrilla activities. One day, accused and he arrested two Chinese guerrillas. In August, 1944, witness said he was dismissed by accused, who said that he was useless.

Pun Kwei-chai, who said he was a former guerrilla band testified to the arrest of his elder brother and a clansman by the accused and a group of Japanese. When sending food to his elder brother, witness added, he heard accused say to his brother: "If you are really a guerrilla, you better admit it. I can let you go."

Asked by His Lordship as to why he used the word, "Communist" at the committal proceedings and now he used the word "guerrilla," witness said that there were no difference in these two words, since all the Communists were guerrillas.

The last witness for the Crown was Cheung Yuk, head of another village in the same district as the accused. In Feb. 1945, accused summoned a meeting of the heads of 30 villages in the district for the purpose of forming a Defence Corps.

Acting as the Chairman of the meeting, witness added, accused told them to form the Corps by conscripting two members from each family in the villages to guard the roads against guerrillas and to maintain peace and order in the villages should the British land on Hong Kong.

Money Mart

Chinese National Currency was less sure of itself yesterday and rates eased off, though only slightly, to 96 cents for futures and \$1.13 for spot (for CN\$1,000). Gold fluctuated between \$293 and \$296 a tael, closing at the latter figure. There was no change in U.S. dollars which had buyers at \$4.34. Sterling weakened to \$15.30, while Australian pounds were unchanged at \$12.55 buyers.

Shai Exchange

Shanghai, Oct. 23.
Closing quotations today were:
Buying Selling
CN\$ CN\$
Gold per ounce 223,000 224,000
U.S. Dollars 4,100 4,200
Hong Kong Dollars 870 890
—Associated Press.

Today is the Depavali (Dewali) Festival, the Hindu New Year. Hindu stores and offices will be decorated. The Hindu Community's celebration will continue until Saturday.

The Commander-in-Chief, Vice-Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, is to attend the wedding at St. John's Cathedral on Saturday morning of Surgeon-Lt. Commander J. K. Salmon, R.N., and Miss Esther Anderson, V.A.D. The ceremony is to take place at 11 a.m.

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CHINA UNDERWRITERS ANNUAL MEETING

The first post-war meeting of shareholders of China Underwriters Ltd. was held yesterday at the Company's office at 4a Des Voeux Road C. presided over by Mr. H. J. Armstrong, Chairman of Directors.

Owing to loss of books and records, it was not possible to present revenue accounts and a Balance Sheet, but only a Statement of Affairs setting out the Company's position on Dec. 31, 1945.

Mr. Armstrong was able to announce, however, that the assets of the Company are practically intact, that no capital loss has been sustained, that the Company has resumed business in nearly all its pre-war fields, and prospects ahead are bright.

Following is the Chairman's report:—

The annual meeting of the Company was held on the 24th June 1946 in December 1941 the Colony was occupied by the Japanese and, in rapid succession, nearly all the Company's principal fields of activity, Malaya, Java and Burma, fell. In China, business had already been seriously interfered with by Japanese action.

Of our Directors at that time, 4 were imprisoned or interned by the Japanese as well as all senior members of the Company's staff except the Secretary, who happened to be on leave. During the Japanese occupation the Chairman, Mr. J. E. Sturt, a number of shareholders and some members of our staff lost their lives as a direct or indirect result of enemy action, and to their relatives we extend our sympathy.

As a result of this, it became impossible to carry on the business of the Company, and the assets were placed under enemy control for carrying out existing commitments and conserving the Company's assets. Even in those countries the Company became (temporarily) subject to the whims of the "Tender" with the "Power" (Electricity) and came under the control of the local Custodians of Enemy Property.

The Secretary, who was in Australia, in consultation with our British Managers, Messrs. A. J. Collins & Co., Ltd., in London and Mr. I. W. Shewan (formerly our General Agent in Burma), considered the possibility of (rather) advanced special powers given under Defence regulations for the registration of the Company in England to enable us to carry on business.

Special thanks are due to our British Managers, Messrs. A. J. Collins & Co., Ltd. our Attorney in Sydney, Mr. H. H. Goddard, to our representatives in Ceylon and India and our Bankers in London, who kept in close touch with the Company's affairs and did everything possible to preserve the Company's name and goodwill in spite of the suspension of business.

Immediately after the British re-occupation of the Colony, the Managing Director and members of the pre-war staff re-occupied the Company's premises at No. 4a Des Voeux Road, Central. While the Company's Share Register, Minute Books, Seal and a large part of the books and records had been lost, a considerable amount of valuable records was found in a state of great confusion. The work of sorting out these papers and re-constructing essential records was put in hand at once, and on the 17th September, 1946, a meeting of those Directors who were still in Hong Kong was held. At this meeting I, representing Messrs. Dearns, the Company's legal advisers, and Dr. J. Durran, who had acted on various occasions for Dr. Anderson as the Company's Principal Medical Officer, were present by invitation. The two gentlemen with Mr. J. R. L. Stanton, the Company's Accident Manager, were appointed additional Directors, and the Board as then reconstituted consisted of myself, Dr. J. Durran, Mr. Li Tzu Fong, Mr. G. A. Pentreath, Mr. J. R. L. Stanton and Mr. H. R. Sturt (Managing Director).

The Articles of Association require the holding of a general meeting of the Company annually but this was manifestly impossible during the past 5 years. The reconstituted Board took control of the Company's affairs until a meeting of the shareholders could be held and a statement of the Company's position placed before them to regularize the Directors' actions. This has taken rather longer than anticipated but a statement is now before you and you will be asked to approve and ratify what the Board has done.

Board Changes

Dr. Durran resigned from the Board due to his impending departure to England after the Board Meeting referred to above and Mr. Stanton resigned for the same reason on 1st October, 1946, on which date Mr. Leo d'Almeida accepted the Board's invitation to become a director.

Other changes in the Board since its reconstitution are: Mr. E. R. Childe was appointed Acting Managing Director in November, 1946, in take over in Mr. Sturt's place while he proceeded to Australia for rest and medical attention. He resigned on 3rd June, 1946 on Mr.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

New arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel include Mr. H. Herbert, Mr. J. B. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Y. L. Farnham, Mr. J. B. Watson and Mr. Y. L. Farnham. Departing guests include Mr. A. R. Kalpp, Mr. H. C. Scwell, and Mr. T. Vander Gaast.

The following passengers arrived in Hong Kong yesterday (Wednesday) by the B.O.A.C. flying-boat "Hawwell" from Singapore:—

Messrs. E. Keng-oh, E. Keng-man, Mr. and Mrs. E. Keng-yue, Miss Jean E. Slater, Van Ross, Messrs. Lader House, Perry, B/Cdr. Liddle, Capt. Ayre, C/O, Jones, B/L. Maude and Miss Lees.

Sturt's return: Mr. I. W. Shewan was appointed Director on his return to the Colony as from 13th December, 1945; Dr. Anderson was re-appointed to the Board on his return as from 14th May, 1946; and Mr. Pentreath resigned owing to pressure of other duties on 3rd June, 1946.

The present Board of Directors consists of myself, Dr. J. W. Anderson, Hon. Mr. Leo d'Almeida, Mr. Li Tzu Fong, Mr. I. W. Shewan and Mr. H. R. Sturt, and, in order to rectify any possible technical irregularity in their appointment all the Directors will retire at this meeting and be eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

As soon as the re-establishment of records was far enough advanced in October, 1945, our policyholders were invited to communicate with the Company at Hong Kong, and from their enquiries, with policies, receipts and other evidence which have been produced, valuable confirmation and amplification of records have been and are still being obtained. We shall not, however, be able to say that our Life records are complete until sufficient time has elapsed for all policyholders to have communicated with us, including those in the Netherlands Indies with whom practically no contact has yet been established. We now understand, however, that the records available in Java will enable this to be undertaken without much delay.

Acceptance of new Life business was recommenced in Hong Kong from October, 1945. Our Reinsurance Treaties were renewed in December, 1945, placing us in a position to undertake Marine and Fire Insurance. Accident Insurance has more recently been commenced.

Singapore

Our Branch Office in Singapore was re-opened under the charge of Mr. W. P. Ferguson (previously our Manager for Burma) in February, 1946, and our Branch Office under the charge of our previous Acting Manager for Burma, at the beginning of April. Our Civilian Office, where our staff had been working under the Custodian of Enemy Property, also our London, Sydney and Madras representatives have all been released from the Custodians' control and in other areas we are in a position to carry on business. Except for China, where currency and other conditions have prevented resumption of business and Java, where we have only recently established communication with our representatives, we have now resumed activities in practically the whole of our pre-war fields.

Turning now to the statement of affairs in your hands, this is necessarily only a partial statement and is subject to several important reservations and to minor amendments in details as further information comes to hand.

The loss of nearly the whole of the account books makes it impossible to present any revenue accounts, Profit & Loss Account or statement of Income and expenditure since 1st January, 1941. As regards the Statement of Affairs: on the assets side Mortgages, Investments, Cash and Balances due by other Insurance Companies can be taken as substantially accurate and, as will be seen, the value of these is in total higher than on 31st December, 1940, and only a satisfactory eleven months working in 1941, details of which are now unfortunately lost.

A substantial item appearing in the Company's usual Balance Sheet, viz. Loans on Life policies, which stood at \$367,420 on 31st December, 1940, can only be approximately estimated. The reason for this is that we have still been unable to gather particulars of all our Life policies. The loans include automatic charges to cover unpaid premiums during the war, while a number of policies, issued during the war and the loans thereon will be set off against loans and surrender values. It will only be when full particulars of all individual Life policies have been obtained that the exact amount of loans on security thereof still outstanding can be ascertained. In the meantime such loans are fully secured and any reduction in their amount is matched by a corresponding reduction in reserve liabilities.

The items of outstanding and deferred premiums must also await the full valuation of all policies, a comparatively small item of \$37,855.96 against the former representing only the estimated amount which it is hoped to collect in respect of non-life premiums due but unpaid in 1941 together with outstanding premiums on new Life business and "revivals" during the short time that we were operating in 1946.

A considerable part of the outstanding interest shown, viz. \$141,932, is subject to the Moratorium but is included in full as it appears to be well secured.

Liabilities

As regards liabilities, Paid-up Capital is slightly understated as we have only details up to the end of July, 1941 of amounts paid in respect of the call made in 1940. The total will be amended as certificates can be examined.

General Reserve and Investment & Exchange Reserve have been left at the same figures as at 31st December, 1940. Details of revenue in the various departments for 1941 have been lost, so that it has been impossible to allocate individual amounts to the various funds, but as all our Fire, Marine and Accident policies expired in 1942 no reserve is required for unexpired risks. The amount of \$214,418 represents the balancing figure after other items which can be definitely established have been taken into account and represent the various Funds and balance of Profit & Loss account available for the general liabilities of the Company, including liabilities under Life policies.

All claims which are known to have arisen prior to 31st December, 1945, have been allowed for under the heading of "Outstanding Claims," together with an estimated amount for Claims not yet presented.

The other items do not call for special comment. To sum up: our Assets are practically intact, except for depreciation in our

Bernado Estate

The late Dr. Antonio Bernado de Sousa, of No. 133 Waterloo Road, who died on Sept. 16, 1942, at the age 69, left local estate sworn under \$123,800. Probate of the will has been granted to his widow, Mrs. Alizira Ezilda Isidura de Sousa.

THE HONG KONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

The Seventy-third Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the offices of the Undersigned on Tuesday, the 12th November, 1946, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ended the 31st December 1941 and for the period from the 1st January 1942 to the 31st December 1945.

The Share Register and Transfer Books will be closed from the 29th October to the 12th November 1946, both days inclusive.

JARDINE MATHESON & CO., LTD.

GENERAL MANAGERS, THE HONG KONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD. Hongkong, 22nd October, 1946.

NOTICE

Widow or children if any of 2/Lt. William Charles Gelston Gilmore of 2/14 Punjab Regiment formerly employed as a cable censor in Hongkong died of wounds in Hongkong on 9th April, 1942 should apply to the Administrator General of Bengal, 1, Council House Street, Calcutta, from whom they will hear to their advantage.

NOTICE

THE CHINA COAST NAVIGATING AND ENGINEER OFFICERS' GUILD

A meeting of members will be held at the Office, 3rd Floor, Union Building, 3, Pedder Street, at 4 p.m. on Thursday, 24th October 1946. J. WATSON, General Secretary.

Notice To Consignees

S.S. "BENLAVERS"

From U.K. via PORTS

Consignees per above vessel are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into The Kowloon Wharf, where it will be at Consignees' risk and subject to the Wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke, at 10.00 a.m. 25th October.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations, Consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after 27th October, 1946, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Vessel must be presented to the undersigned on or before 15th November, 1946, or they will not be recognised.

No Insurance will be effected.

Agents:

W. R. LOXLEY & CO. (China) Ltd.

Hongkong, 23th October, 1946.

NOTICE

WAR GRAVES REGISTRATION

There may still be a number of War Graves in the Colony which have not yet been recovered by the Graves Service.

Anyone having knowledge of the whereabouts of any such graves—i.e. of Service personnel who died in the fighting in 1941 or, subsequently, during the Japanese occupation—is requested to communicate with D.A.D. GRAVES REGISTRATION, Room 18, 3rd floor, Post Office Building. (Tel. 24190)

The Union Waterboat Company, Limited

Notice is hereby given that the Thirty-seventh Ordinary General Meeting of the Company, will be held at the Offices of Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., 3rd floor, Hongkong Bank Building, on Monday, the 4th November 1946, at noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statements of Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1941 and for the period 1st January 1942 to 30th November 1945.

DODWELL & CO., LTD., General Managers.

Hongkong 7th October 1946.

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISPOSALS, FAR EASTERN AREA (M.O.S.).

1. THE BRITISH STORES DISPOSAL BOARD (HONG KONG) is authorised to receive TENDERS for the following CRAFT:—

Serial No.	Description	Quantity
4419	Craft Harbour Launch Petrol 36"	1
4426	" " " " " "	1
4484	" " " " " "	1
4431	" " " " " "	1
441013	" " " " " "	1
44270	" " " " " "	1
44164	" " " " " "	1
44101	" " " " " "	1
44184	" " " " " "	1
44102	" " " " " "	1
44160	" " " " " "	1
4464	" " " " " "	1
44855	" " " " " "	1
44856	" " " " " "	1
N/N	Motor Cutter 32"	1
N/N	" " " " " "	1
N/N	" " " " " "	1
43713	" " " " " "	1
4370	" " " " " "	1
372	" " " " " "	1
2571	" " " " " "	1
431270	" " " " " "	1
2594	" " " " " "	1
N/N	" " " " " "	1
42860	" " " " " "	1
41517	" " " " " "	1
31034	" " " " " "	1
N/N	Work Boat 40"	1
20075	" " " " " "	1
44227	" " " " " "	1
441836	" " " " " "	1
105	Naval Assault Barge 37"	1
101	" " " " " "	1
194	" " " " " "	1
N/N	Landing Craft S.P. 40"	1
N/N	" " " " " "	1
N/N	" " " " " "	1
N/N	Life Boat 22"	1

2. No warranty is given with any of the above craft.

3. Some are without engines, parts, etc., and all will be sold in whatever condition they may be, with all faults, imperfections, etc.

4. The above craft are located at H.M. Naval Dockyard, Kowloon.

5. Hours of inspection:—10 a.m. to 12 Noon, Mondays to Fridays inclusive.

6. Passes and Tender Forms may be obtained from the British Stores Disposal Board, Headquarters Land Forces, Victoria Barracks, (Entrance 60 yards west of Queen's Road Entrance to Barracks).

7. Tenders must be deposited with the Board, in sealed packets and marked "Tender for Craft" and addressed to the Chairman.

8. Closing date for Tender:—12 Noon Thursday, the 31st day of October, 1946.

9. The Chairman of the British Stores Disposal Board (Hong Kong) does not bind himself to accept the highest or any Tender.

WALTER M. WEINBERGER, Chairman.

BRITISH STORES DISPOSAL BOARD, (HONG KONG).

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Appraisers, Pedder Building, Telephone No. 20214.

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions from the Acting Custodian of Property to sell by Public Auction on Thursday the 24th October 1946, commencing at 10.00 a.m. at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building, Basement.

100 LOTS OF MISCELLANEOUS GOODS comprising:

STORED AT CUSTODIAN K. 1 GODOWN, MA TAU WEI ROAD, KOWLOON.

Coal Tar, Paint, Grease, Lime, Engine Oil, Lubricating Oil, Gasoline, Asphalt, Dyes, Chemicals, Carbon Bi-Sulphide, Machine Oil, Axle Grease, Aloe Powder, Kerosene, Telephone Insulators, Scrap Iron, Wire, Tin Straps, Rubber Sheets, Caustic Soda, Tar, Scrap Nickel, Carley Floats, Wooden Life Jackets, Barbed Wire, Engines, Empty Drums, Etc.

STORED AT HONG KONG ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION CO. TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON.

Power Hack Saw, Saw Table, Lathe turnings, pipings, Shafts, Etc.

STORED AT TAI SUN OPEN YARD, WEST POINT.

V-shaped Dump Buckets, Tipper Frames, Rectangular Mine Cars, Rail Track Turn Tables.

STORED AT SUI BUN FOR OPEN YARD, WEST POINT.

"Goodwin" Concrete Mixer, Concrete Mixer Drum, Air Tanks.

STORED AT SUI BUN FOR GODOWN NO. 1-B, GROUND FLOOR, WEST POINT.

Electric Wiring.

STORED AT SUI BUN FOR GODOWN NO. 3-A, GROUND FLOOR, WEST POINT.

Mild Steel Shaftings, Stone Mason Chisels, Stone Mason Hammers, Diesel Engine, Heat Treating Furnace with Bath.

STORED AT SUI BUN FOR GODOWN NO. 3-B, GROUND FLOOR, WEST POINT.

Electric Motors, 140 H. P.

STORED AT HONG KONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO'S NO. 1 GODOWN, WEST POINT.

Scrap Iron, Iron Wheels, Wire Rope, Anchor Chains, Iron Chains, Iron Pulleys.

STORED AT HONG KONG GARAGE, STUBBS ROAD, HONG KONG.

One "Ford" Car.

STORED AT CAROLINE HILL DUMP, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

One "Austin 7" Car Body.

STORED AT HONG KONG WATERWORKS, BULLOCK LANE, WANCHAI.

Universal Shaper with Pulley, Power Hack Saw, Capstan Lathe, Graphotype Machine, Pneumatic Rock Drill Sharpener, Radiator and Crane-shaft, Punching Machines, "Duckton" Shaping Machine, Pipe Screwing Machine, Moulders Sand, Whampoa Mud for Moulding Cores.

STORED AT RELIEF DEPOT, KING'S BLDG., GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT ROAD, CENTRAL.

One Safe.

The above Premises will be open to inspection on 22nd and 23rd October, 1946, between 10.00 a.m. and noon, and between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. Inspection Permits will be issued by the Undersigned at their Auction Rooms.

The Auction is subject to the Conditions of Sale published in the 9th March, 1946, issue of the Gazette.

LAMMERT BROTHERS, Auctioneers.

Service Auction Rooms

Auctioneers, Surveyors and Appraisers, French Bank Bldg. A.E.B. de Sousa, Auctioneer, Telephone 21867.

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20 WORDS \$2. FOR ONE INSERTION PREPAID, \$1 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL INSERTION, ADDITIONAL WORDS 10 CTS. PER WORD PER INSERTION

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WHY SPECULATE! Buy Direct Wholesale. Brand new 1946-47 Catalog, listing over 1001 different items, "Just off the PRESS" EXPORTERS-IMPORTERS, Allow us to fill your Orders. Send us your list of items wanted and we will QUOTE prices and Terms. Let us Represent you here in the STATES. CATALOG, send 25c to cover cost of mailing. AIR MAIL send DRAFT \$2.50. Express or Bank. EXPORT DEPT. LEWIS NOVELTY CO., "JOBBER'S DISTRIBUTORS" SELLING AGENTS, 771 Capp Street, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.

MODE FILIPINA—Ladies & Men's Hats made to order. Blocking, Bleaching, Renovating & Trimming undertaken. Old Hats made new. Expert Manila Hat-Makers, 14 Pedder Street, Telephone 22360.

POSITION VACANT

WANTED—by leading European firm lady Steno-typist. Apply giving full particulars and salary expected to Box No. 222, "China Mail."

FOR SALE

AN old established business, very progressive, doing a large steady business, with commensurate profits, very valuable assets, having an important and extensive clientele, providing a profitable and attractive proposition for investment. Principals now wishing to retire. Negotiations are invited for its purchase, flotation, or otherwise. Substantial and genuine persons only; please apply in first instance to Box No. 223 "China Mail".

ATTENTION! Attention! Just Arrive from United Kingdom Men's Leather Shoes, Limited quantity made at special price of \$42.00 per pair. Obtainable at Oriental Shoe Co. 15-B Wellington Street, Hong Kong.

TYPEWRITERS FOR HIRE—Reasonable rental per month. Typewriter Ribbons \$6.00 each. Standard Typewriter Co., Alexandra Building, (Ground Floor). Tel. 50591.

CODE-BOOK—Acme Commodity Phrase \$180.00, Bentley Second Phrase \$150.00, Bentley Complete Phrase \$120.00, Few Copies. Phone 30381, Room 622 Mr. Wang every morning.

GARAGE WANTED

GARAGE accommodation near Peninsula Hotel required for small 12 H.P. car. Offers to Box No. 224 "China Mail."

PUBLIC AUCTION

The Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction on FRIDAY, the 25th OCTOBER 1946, commencing at 2.30 P.M.

at their Sales Rooms,

No. 35, HANKOW ROAD, KOWLOON.

A Fine Collection of Valuable Household Furniture Comprising:—

Teakwood dining tables, dining chairs, sideboards, glass cabinets, Sofas & armchairs, dressing tables, wardrobes, chest of drawers, double bedsteads, divans, writing tables, book cases, table fan, table lamps, marble statue, Howe scale, croquet balls, stamp albums, stamp catalogue books, bronze figures, portable gramophone, music books, Bentley's complete Phrase Code book, Norge refrigerator, Tientsin large carpets & rugs, blackwood furniture, crockery, glass ware and kitchen utensils etc., etc., etc.

Also

1 Woodstock typewriter
1 Remington typewriter
1 Westinghouse radio
2 Radio-grams
3 Yards of Grey-striped English gents suit
3 Yards of English tweed for gents' overcoat
1 Bed Room Suite
1 Dining Room Suite

On View From Thursday, the 24th October 1946.

Terms. As Customary. LAMMERT BROS., Auctioneers.

SHOWING **QUEEN'S** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

Join these lusty marines in their search for thrills, Romance and adventure!

20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE



SHOWING **LINKS** At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15, & 9.15 p.m.



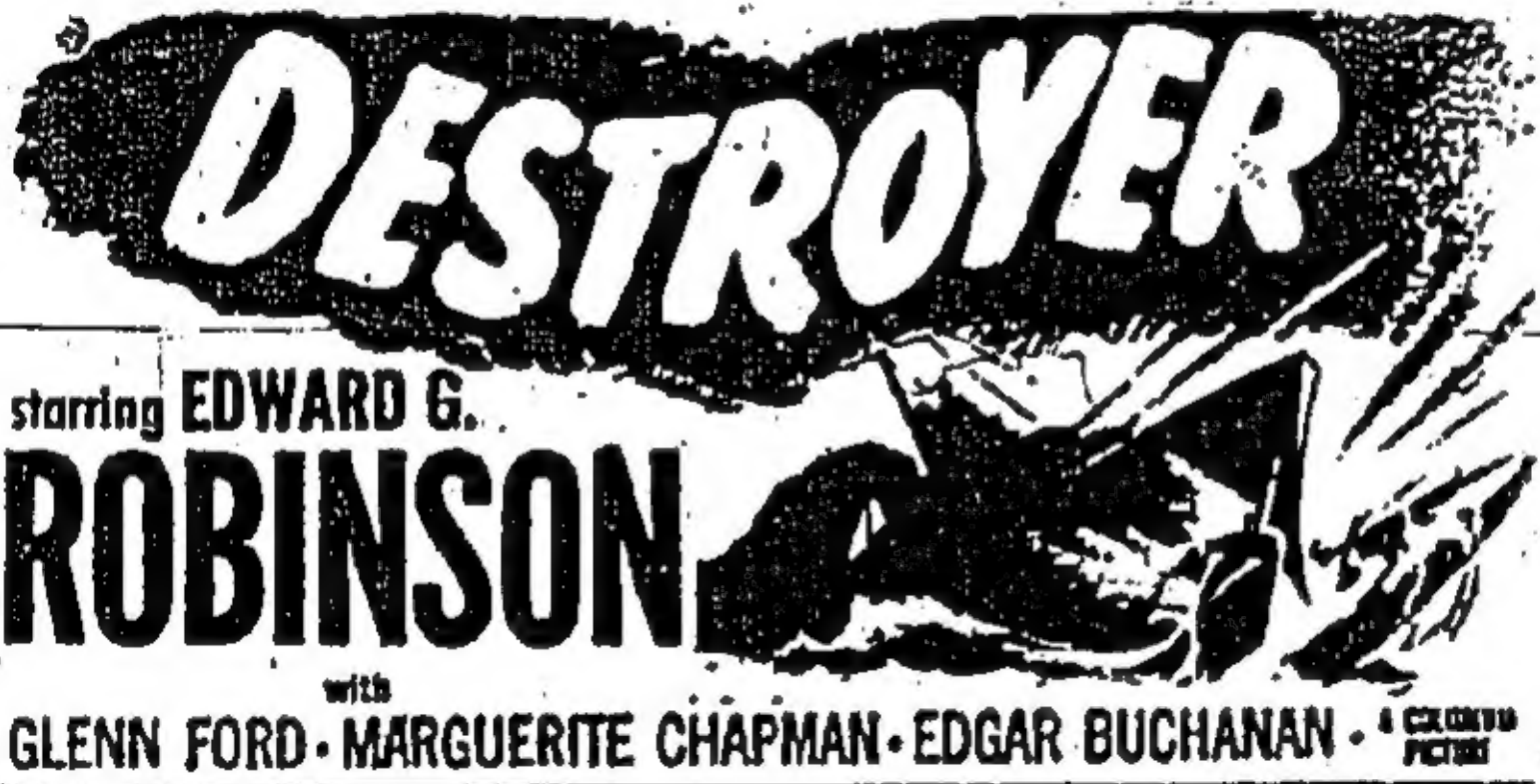
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Special Matinee Performance At 12 Noon Daily.
See the Exciting Climax in the Final Chapters of
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FOUR **LEE THEATRE** AT 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 P.M.
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International Scrum For Minerals

Philadelphia, Oct. 23.

An international scramble is underway for control of the world's mineral resources, Dr. Charles Leith, nationally-known geologist said today.

Resources include scarce ores such as are used in atomic bombs, as well as the more abundant ones, Leith said in a paper prepared for the Philadelphia meeting of the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Leith said that the United States and Britain "were among the nations endowed with good portions of the world's mineral resources. Other nations that lack resources are trying to acquire stock piles. This is a prolific source of international friction."

Any proposed solution, he said, will run against the "stubborn theories of sovereignty of nations." International conservation agreements, he added, would be a deterrent to war because any nation wanting to make war needs access to international resources.

In another address, Dr. John Fleming, of Carnegie Institute, said that international cooperation in science has three major responsibilities:

1. Encouragement of nations to maintain sound principles of science.
2. Promotion of scientific endeavour to increase knowledge looking toward application to human welfare and not "warfare."
3. Diffusion of scientific knowledge to all people.—Associated Press.

India's New Army

New Delhi, Oct. 23.

India's new Defence Minister, Sardar Baldev Singh, said in a broadcast today that "Indianisation of the armed forces will now be speeded up at an accelerated pace, compatible with efficiency."

Addressing "the officers and men of the armed forces in India," he said:

"Your whole outlook must be imbued with love of India, so that we may take pride in this great land of ours and serve it to the best of our capacity, for every soldier, sailor and airman in the National Army is a standard bearer of India's freedom."

Addressing British officers and men in the Indian armed forces, Baldev Singh said: "In achieving our ideal of a National Army for India, we will not be unjust. We realize your share in the laurels our men have won we are conscious of it all. The change-over will not mean injury to your interests."

"Serve the new India as loyally as your Indian comrades served the India of the past. Pass on to your Indian comrades all the experience and knowledge that you have gained in the past so that they may, in turn, serve the Indian Army faithfully and truly as you have done."—Associated Press.

Powers Should Meet In Berlin

Berlin, Oct. 22.

General Joseph P. McNarney, commanding the United States forces in Europe, told a press conference here today that his idea was that when the Foreign Ministers of the occupying powers met to discuss a peace settlement for Germany, their conference should be held in Berlin.

Asked whether a central administration of Germany by Germans was necessary, General McNarney said: "If you are going to sign a peace treaty with the German nation, you must have some responsible party who will accept the terms and carry them out."

Commenting on the Berlin election results, he said: "I consider 'the results to be an expression of dissatisfaction on the part of the Berlin population with the present Communist-dominated city.'—Reuter.

Portugal Pacified

Lisbon, Oct. 22.

Army welfare and "matters relating to public order" were discussed at a three-day conference of Army chiefs under the Minister of War, it was officially announced.

After the conference army chiefs called on President Carmona and Premier Antonio Salazar to affirm the army's support of the regime.

Although the announcement did not say so, it is believed the conference was related to the recent army rising in north Portugal.—Reuter.

MAJESTIC

TO-DAY ONLY
At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

By Special Request!

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'TARZAN'S NEW YORK ADVENTURE'

With
JOHNNY WEISSMULLER
MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN
AN M-G-M PICTURE
TO-MORROW
'LASSIE COME HOME'

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Across

1. Clear.
4. Pattern.
7. Angry.
8. Unskilful.
9. Motive.
11. Brought into being.
13. Argue.
15. Changed course.
16. Parcel out.
19. Trustworthy.
21. Sporting dog.

Yesterday's Solution

ACROSS:—1. Spot; 4. Temper; 8. Real; 9. Glee; 10. Purling; 11. Bred; 12. Cool; 14. Revels; 17. Armed; 19. Valet; 22. Managed; 23. Lens; 27. Cell; 28. Defect; 29. Akin; 30. Defy; 31. Stagger; 32. Shed.

DOWN:—2. Pallor; 3. Treble; 4. Taper; 5. Eluded; 6. Pulse; 7. Skill; 12. Calm; 13. Omen; 15. Able; 16. Sets; 18. Decide; 20. Allays; 21. Entice; 23. Alert; 24. Aping; 25. Deter.

Down

1. Demean.
2. Tracks.
3. Dend.
4. Split.
5. Container for wine.
6. Plundered.
10. Freed from blame.
12. Rebels.
13. Shortage.
14. False.
16. Elevate.
17. Dismal.

CENTRAL & ALHAMBRA
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SEATS BOOKED BY TELEPHONE WILL BE KEPT UP TO 6.30 p.m. ONLY.

4 SHOWS DAILY

CATHAY At 2.30-5.15 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

BIGGER & BETTER THAN "SUN VALLEY SERENADE"

Souja HENIE * John PAYNE in

"MARRIAGE ON ICE"

Starring Jack OAKIE Sammy KAYE

EXTRA PERFORMANCE —

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DAILY AT 12.30 P.M.

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PAIN and FEVER

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'ASPRO' the greatest medicine is back again. It brings instant relief for pain, reduces the temperature of fever and soothes the nerves. Its prompt use can ward off serious illnesses. 'ASPRO' does not harm the heart or stomach. It is safe. Even a child can take it. 'ASPRO' is the quickest surest relief for Headaches, Rheumatism, Neuritis, Lumbago, Colds, Influenza, Toothache, Sciatica, Irritability, Sleeplessness and all nerve pains.

New stock available at Dispensaries and Stores

5, 11 and 27 tablets.

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VESSEL	DUE	SAILING FOR
M.V. DONA ANICETA	Late Nov.	Atlantic Coast via Honolulu & L. Angeles.
M.V. BENGAL	Early Dec.	Pacific Coast.
M.V. BALI	January	Pacific & Atlantic Coasts.

THE DE LA RAMA STEAMSHIP CO. INC.Pedder Building Chinese Shipping Office
TEL: 23676 Tel. 23738/20153**BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE**1, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL
Telephones: 80331-8 Private Exchange.**Agents: CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.****SAILINGS TO**

"ANHUI"	Swatow, Amoy, Singapore & Penang	24th Oct.
"FUKIEN"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 25th Oct.
"NANCHANG"	Haiphong	2 p.m. 29th Oct.
"HANYANG"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 29th Oct.
"POYANG"	Shanghai	4 p.m. 1st Nov.
"HUPEH"	Shanghai, Tsingtao & Tientsin	4 p.m. 5th Nov.

ARRIVALS FROM

"POYANG"	Bangkok	27th Oct.
"HUPEH"	Tientsin, Tsingtao & Foochow	2nd Nov.
"NEWCHWANG"	Singapore	3rd Nov.

CANTON RIVER LINE

"FATSHAN"	Sails 9 a.m. 25th Oct.
	Arrives 5.30 p.m. 27th Oct.
	Sails 11 a.m. 29th Oct.
	Arrives 1 p.m. 31st Oct.

Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE**U. K. SERVICE**

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"GLENAPP"	U.K. via Straits
"SINKIANG"	do

NEW YORK SERVICE

Arriving	From
"GLAUCUS"	New York.

Agents:**AUSTRALIAN - ORIENTAL LINE, LTD.**

Arriving	From
"YOCHOW"	25th Oct. Australia
Sailing	For
"YOCHOW"	1st Nov. Sydney, Melbourne

All The Above Subject To Alteration Without Notice.
For Passage and Freight Particulars Apply To The Above.**DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.****S. S. "Haiyang"**Sailing for Swatow & Amoy
on or about 29th October.

Subject to alteration without Notice.

For Particulars of Freight & Passage.

Please apply to:

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P. & O. Building, 5th floor. Tel. 23755.

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BEN LINE STEAMERS LIMITED.

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FREIGHT ONLY.

VESSELS DUE

S.S. "BENLAVERS"	about 22nd Oct.
S.S. "BENCRUACHAN"	about 19th Oct.

W. R. LOXLEY & CO. (CHINA), LTD.

York Building Tel. 34168.

BURNS, PHILP & CO., LTD.**S.S. "MAROSA"**

from Australian Ports

arrived

23rd. October, 1946.

For further particulars apply to:

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.

P. & O. Building. Tel. 31178 and 25031.

London Stock Market

London, Oct. 22.

Political influence was again responsible for the tendency to hold off by average operators during the early stages of today's session on the stocks market.

Subsequently, however, a small persistent demand developed in British funds, with occasional rises of 1/16th.

Issues scheduled for nationalisation, such as collieries, electric supplies and home rails, show useful advances while in other directions stores came in for attention.

Chinese bonds attracted more support. Jutes and rubbers, however, were very quiet. Elsewhere South African gold mines moved contrary to this trend under the influence of Cape selling on further labour troubles.

Quotations:—

Consols, 2½ per cent 1945/75 99½, Conversion Loan, 3½ per cent 113½, War Loan, 3½ per cent 103-7/16, New War Loan, 3 per cent 107½, Victory Bonds, 4 per cent 120½, Saving Bonds 3½ 1955-65 105-15/16, Saving Bonds 3½ 1960-70 107½, Saving Bonds 3½ 1965-75 109, German Loan, 7 per cent (Dawes) 11½, Japanese Bonds, 5 per cent 1907 21½, Canton-Kowloon Rly. 24, Tientsin Pukow Railway, 5 per cent 27, Lunz-Tsing U. Hai Rly. 5 per cent 1913 25, Reorg. Loan, 5 per cent 1913 (London Iss) 48, Crisp Loan, 5 per cent 1911 44, Hukuang Railway, 5 per cent 1911 28, Honan Railway, 5 per cent 1905 32½, Shanghai-Nanking Railway, 5 per cent 27, Mercantile Bank of India, "A" 22½, Chartered Bank of I. A. & C. 11-13/16, H.K. & Shanghai Banking Corporation 84, Lydenburg Estates 56/3, South Africa Townships 27½, Selection Trust 43/1, South Africa Torbanites 11/3, Canadian Pacific 18, Mexican Eagles 15/7.—Reuter.

COTTON FLURRYLiverpool, Oct. 23.
The Liverpool Cotton Association Committee attribute the fluctuating prices in United States cotton markets to the closing of the Liverpool exchange.

"The violent fluctuations in the price of cotton in the United States in the last few days with the drastic and arbitrary raising of prices to the Lancashire mills are mainly caused by the lack of

N.Y. Stock Market

New York, Oct. 23.

Closing stock market quotations:

Adams Express 15, Alaska Juneau 5½, American Can 82½, American Smelting 52½, American Telephone 173½, American Tobacco 83½, American Waterworks 15, Anaconda Copper 38½, Aviation Corporation 7½, Baldwin Locomotive 20, Barnsdall 23½, Bendix Aviation 32½, Bethlehem Steel 94½, Boeing Aircraft 23, Borden Co. 48, Canadian Pacific 13½, J. I. Case 37, Chrysler 80, Colgate 49½, Commercial Solvents 22½, Corn Products 68½, Dupont 177½, Eastman Kodak 210, Electric Light & Power 15, General Electric 38½, General Motors 50½, Goodrich 69½, Goodyear 59½, Homestake Mining 38, International Harvester 73, International Paper 43½, International Tel. & Tel. 18, Johns Manville 129, Kennecott Copper 45½, Montgomery Ward 69, National Distillers 22½, National Lead 30½, New York Central 15½, Packard Motors 6½, Pan-American Airways 14, Pennsylvania RR 26½, Radio Corporation 9½, Real Silk —, Republic Steel 27½, Reynolds Tobacco 40½, Schenley 60½, Sears Roebuck 210, Shell Oil 15, Socony Vacuum 14, Southern Pacific 43, Standard Brands 40½, Standard Oil of Calif. 55½, Standard Oil of N.J. 69½, Studebaker 20½, Union Bag 28, Union Carbide 94, U.S. Rubber 58½, U.S. Steel 70½, Westinghouse 24½, Youngstown Sheet & Tube 55.—Associated

SHIPBUILDING

London, Oct. 23.

At the end of September there were 3,569,159 tons of merchant shipping under construction throughout the world, (certain countries excluded) and 53.5 per cent (or 1,874,878 tons) of that amount were building in Great Britain and Ireland, said Lloyds Register of shipbuilding returns for the quarter ended September 30, issued here yesterday.—Associated Press.

the stabilizing influence formerly exerted by the Liverpool cotton market," the committee said in a statement.—Associated Press.

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Speed—Frequency—Dependability

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SAILING FOR

S.S. "MARINE LYNX"	26th Oct. San Francisco via Manila.
S.S. "CELOVIS VICTORY"	28th Oct. New York and Boston via San Francisco, Los Angeles and Panama.
S.S. "MOUNT DAVIS"	30th Oct. New York and Boston via Singapore & Suez.
S.S. "MOUNT ROGERS"	Early Nov. New York and Boston via Singapore & Suez.
S.S. "VANDERBILT VICTORY"	26th Nov. New York & Boston, via San Francisco, Los Angeles and Panama.

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SHIPPING DEPARTMENT

16 Pedder Street
Tel. 30311.

General Managers.

INDO-CHINA S. N. CO., LTD.**SAILINGS**

S.S. "KUTSANG"	to Straits & Calcutta 25th Oct.
S.S. "WOSANG"	to Bangkok 2nd Nov.
S.S. "ESANG"	to Straits & Calcutta via Saigon 5th Nov.
S.S. "KWAISANG"	to Sandakan 28th Oct.

ARRIVALS

S.S. "KWAISANG"	from Straits 24th Oct.
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IN PORT

S.S. "EMPIRE FRASER"	Cosmo Dock
S.S. "KUTSANG"	Kowloon Dock.

Subject to alteration without notice.

All intending Passengers are requested to register their names as far as possible in advance of the time at which they wish to leave.

Agents: GLEN LINE LTD.

M.V. DENBIGHSHIRE	due from U.K. 1st Nov.
M.V. "GLENSTRAE"	Taikoo Dock.
M.V. "GLENAPP"	Loads for U.K., Rotterdam Antwerp Amsterdam—Mid Nov.

Managing Agents:**AUSTRALIA CHINA LINE**

S.S. "PERIOD"	due from Sydney 24th Oct.
M.V. NEWBROUGH	due from Australia via Labuan. Mid Nov.

Agents: THE WESTERN CANADA STEAMSHIPS LTD.

S.S. "LAKE NIPIGON"	due from Vancouver, Shanghai. Mid Nov.
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PERSIAN & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

Ship	From	Due
"TREVETHOE"	U.K.	End October
"BENALDER"	J.K.	End October
"SAMLAMU"	Bombay	Early November
"GLENIFFER"	U.K.	Mid November
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K.	November
"TREVAN"	U.K.	December
Ship	Loads For	Ready
"SAMLAMU"	Straits & Bombay	Early November
"TREVETHOE"	Straits & U.K.	November

*Accepts cargo for London, Antwerp & Rotterdam.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"BINFIELD"	Ran goon	29th October
"PASHA"	Calcutta	2nd November

SHIP	LOADS FOR	READY
"BINFIELD"	Straits, Madras, Calcutta.	Early November

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

Passengers & Freight to Australia

For full particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

PRINCE LINE

S.S. "SAMMEX"	Due from U.S.A. & Shanghai 26th Oct.
M.V. "SCOTTISH PRINCE"	MID NOV.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

Chinese Freight Agents:—CHEONG FAT CO.

Telephone 20037

SWEDISH EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD.**OUTWARD**

M.V. NAGARA	discharging Hong Kong 31st October.
M.V. BENARES	discharging Hong Kong 23rd November.
M.V. VASAOLM	discharging Hong Kong 25th November.

HOMEWARD

M.V. NAGARA	loading Hong Kong 15th November.
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Port Said, Marseilles, Antwerp, Rotterdam
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Agents, Telephone 27871.

'Unarmed Combat' Display In Court

A demonstration of how to tackle an armed man was given by Mr. R. S. Smith, Assistant Crown Solicitor, before Sir Henry Blackall, Chief Justice, at the Criminal Sessions yesterday when testifying against Chau Shek-ming for robbing him and a friend on Customs Pass Road on the night of June 21.

G.I. Bride Charged

Las Vegas, Nevada, Oct. 22.

Efforts were continuing in the Courthouse here today to find a jury to try Mrs. Bridget Waters, aged 26, a pretty Irish G.I. bride who faced a charge of murdering her husband, Frank, by shooting him on September 2.

Little progress was made yesterday, the first day of the trial, when members of the panel of potential jurors were closely questioned by the prosecution and defence and by the end of the day only two had been selected.

While this "sifting" of the jury went on, Mrs. Waters, dressed in a light grey suit and looking pale and thinner than she had been, sat twisting her wedding ring. During the day she heard Mr. Gray Bugler, the District Attorney, declare, "Nevada has never executed women and I don't aim to start such a precedent now"—Reuter.

PRIVATE CAR USED AS TAXI

A warning was issued by Mr. George She at the request of the Traffic Department, that private car owners should be careful not to allow their vehicles to be used for public hire either by their chauffeurs or any other person in possession of the vehicle.

Private car No. 567 was seen by Mr. Bidstead, A.S.P., being used for hire in Pedder Street at about 8.45 p.m. on Monday.

At the Central Magistracy yesterday, Tse Yiu, 37, driver, and Tang Shiu-hung, 40, driver, were charged with using the vehicle for hire, while Chan Wah, 33, driver and Tang Kau, fitter, were charged with aiding and abetting.

All defendants pleaded guilty. It was alleged that Tse Yiu was the ring leader in the business, while Tang Shiu-hung and Tang Kau, were employees.

Tang Shiu-hung, who was arrested when driving the car with two passengers, was driver for Colonel Gordon. He was earning \$150 and had a family of seven. He only worked for Tse at night.

Tse Yiu and Chan Wah were fined \$250, while the other two defendants were cautioned.

RADIO

ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles and from 12.30 to 1.15 p.m., 7.30 to 8.30 p.m., and 9.15 to 11.00 p.m., also on 9.52 megacycles.

H.K.T. 12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary, 12.35 p.m.—"Romance and Rhythm," 12.47 p.m.—"Deprived and His Orchestra," 1.00 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.

1.10 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude, 1.15 p.m.—"From the Shows"—Musical Comedy, 1.40 p.m.—London Transcription Service: "The British Ballet Orchestra" No. 5 "Horseshoe", 2.00 p.m.—Close Down, 6.30 p.m.—Jimmy Dorsey and His Orchestra, 7.00 p.m.—"Picked at Random"—Variety, 7.30 p.m.—Studio: Hal Lorenzo at the Piano, 7.50 p.m.—The Georgian Singers, 8.00 p.m.—London Relay: News, 8.15 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude, 8.20 p.m.—Studio: A Talk—"Work of the British Council in China," by Dr. E. E. Lavery, 8.30 p.m.—Wilfred Thomas and Jack Savage and His Orchestra, 8.45 p.m.—London Transcription Service: "Adventures of Julia" No. 3 "This Intuition Business", 9.15 p.m.—Jack Payne and His Orchestra, 9.30 p.m.—London Relay: "El Alcazar" at Royal Albert Hall, London, Speeches by the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill and Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, 10.00 p.m.—London Relay: News, 10.05 p.m.—"Americana"—Musical, 10.15 p.m.—American Songs and Music, 10.25 p.m.—Maurice's Quintet in D Major, 11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

JEWISH 'IMMIGRANTS'

Famagusta, Oct. 23. Two British merchant ships, the "Ocean Vigour" and "Empire Rival" arrived here today with 819 Jewish illegal immigrants to Palestine, transhipped at Haifa from the 500-ton cargo ship "Alma," which was intercepted by the Royal Navy off the Syrian coast on Sunday night.

The immigrants landed here without giving trouble but one group, interviewed aboard the landing craft which brought them ashore, said that they themselves would give trouble once they were behind barbed wires.

The immigrants joined the 4,239 illegal immigrants in detention here, making a total of 5,103 housed in five camps.—Reuter.

Travancore Celebrate Today

Today the First Travancore Infantry is celebrating the birthday of His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore.

Gun Club Hill, Kowloon, where the battalion is stationed, is clothed in gray and colourful garb for the occasion, while the Officers and men of the regiment enthusiastically wish their beloved Ruler many happy returns of the day.

The celebrations include prayers in the Regimental Temple for the long life and success of His Highness and a feast for the men of the regiment. This evening the Officers and men will entertain 300 poor children of the Colony at Gun Club Hill. This novel way of celebrating the birthday is greatly appreciated, and not least by the children, who will remember the day with delight for a long time. Lady Young, Miss Young, General Festing and Brigadier Lindsay have agreed to be present at the Children's Party.

Travancore State, of which every one in the regiment, is intensely proud, is a picturesque stretch of land in the south west corner of India. Starting with a mountain range in the east and dense forests full of various kinds of wild game, the country descends towards the sea across unending coconut groves, wide stretches of paddy and streams winding their way to beautiful lakes along the coast line. With its population of 6 million and annual income of over £80,000,000 (\$96,000,000) which are exceeded only by two other Indian States, Hyderabad and Mysore, Travancore is destined to play a very important place in the India of the future.

Purdah Unknown

It stands foremost in education, having the highest percentage of literacy in the whole of India, both for men and women. Women have always held a position of complete equality and freedom with men, and "purdah" is something which this part of India has never known. Travancore established a legislature in 1883, and was the first Indian State to do so. Today the State has a legislature of two houses. On the last birthday of His Highness a proclamation inaugurated far reaching Constitutional reforms which follow the general lines of the Constitution of the U.S.A., and include the grant of adult franchise and a legislature composed wholly of popularly elected members. These are land marks in the history of Constitutional progress in India, and have received the praise of the British Prime Minister and of Statesmen from many parts of the world.

His Highness the Maharaja, who completes 34 years today, is the scion of a dynasty which has ruled over the land through all recorded history in an unbroken tradition of selfless and devoted service to the people.

Herren, Holland, Oct. 23. Approximately 10,000 Dutch miners in the mining district of Southern Limburg went on a 24-hour strike yesterday as a protest against the delay in receiving wage increases.—Associated Press.

Dance Halls Lit Up, Homes In Darkness

A suggestion that electric current should be limited or rationed if the total supply available at present is not adequate and the plant is overloaded, was made at the Central Magistracy yesterday, when Kwok Shiu-leung, electrician, was charged before Mr. George She with diversion of electricity at No. 34, Po Tak Street on October 17.

Mr. D. B. Evans, representing the Hong Kong Electric Company, asked the Court to issue a public warning that future cases would be dealt with severely, and that it was dangerous to make additional installations without the Company's authority.

Kwok was alleged to have linked a wire to the main of the Hong Kong Electric Company, while the premises were without a meter.

Kwok said he applied for a meter about six months ago, and it was not yet installed. He was pressed by the consumer for electricity, but he realised his mistake.

Mr. She recalled that a defendant in a case of the same nature, had raised the point that restaurants and dance halls had lights in full swing, while part of the residential area was in darkness.

It was stated that over 2,000 applications for meters were on the waiting list at present. No meter was now being issued, owing to the overload on the plant.

Mr. She fined defendant \$50, and warned that it might be \$1,000 fine in the future.

An aged woman, Tam Lai-sun, and Chiu On, charged with the same offence, were discharged when the prosecution withdrew the charges.

HYMN OF THE NATIONS

Lovers of good music are to be provided, in conjunction with "United Nations Week," a chance to hear Toscanini's Hymn of the Nations, with the great master himself leading a complete orchestra and choir.

The picture is being released through the courtesy of the United States Consulate-General and will be available to schools and clubs wishing a screening. Should the magnifying apparatus be available, it may be screened at the leading theatres.

The picture is 16 mm. and unsuitable ordinarily for the theatre projection room. Toscanini's Hymn is based on Verdi and has been remodelled to take in the national anthems of the United Nations. It is a fine piece of music and was among the short subjects awarded special commendation by the Motion Picture Academy.

H.M.S. "Hart," an escort vessel left Hong Kong yesterday (Wednesday) for Manila and is conveying Mr. L. H. Foulds, the first British Minister to be appointed to the recently constituted Philippine Republic. Soon after his arrival, Mr. Foulds is expected to present his credentials to the President. He is accompanied by Mrs. Foulds.

SPORTS SECTION

Chess

The following were results of games played in the ninth round of the Kowloon Chess Club's League Tournament at the Peninsula Hotel on Tuesday night:

F. X. Sequeira beat F. A. Fisher; Col. H. M. Whitcombe beat R. C. Tavares; L. A. da Costa beat H. Ballerand.

Adjusted ladder standings are: 1. F. A. Gutierrez, 2. J. P. de Carvalho, 3. L. M. Rodrigues, 4. R. C. Gardner, 5. A. P. Ricci, 6. F. X. Sequeira, 7. F. A. Fisher, 8. R. C. Danenberg, 9. Col. H. M. Whitcombe, 10. R. C. Tavares, 11. L. A. da Costa, 12. H. Ballerand, 13. J. Reynaud, 14. H. Knight.

"JAMBOREE"

More than four hundred members of the Forces watched a bright and breezy swing session-cum-revue last night at the Star Theatre, Kowloon, where the Stars in Battledress "Jamboree" show began the first night of its run here.

Manager of the show, 32-year-old Reg Varney, Army sergeant, singer and musician, stole most of the applause with a lively musical comedy turn. Singing music and crooning are the highlights of "Jamboree" given by the 11 men and three women who make up the cast.

CHINA UNDERWRITERS ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from Page 5.)

Chinese Dollar assets already written down in 1946 and partly offset by the reduced exchange value of our liabilities no capital loss has been sustained. It is to be emphasized that the Statement of Affairs is not a Balance Sheet but from the figures therein our leaders will be reconstituted and, with any necessary adjustments and proper Reserve accounts for the current year, a formal Balance Sheet will be drawn up as at 31st December, 1946 to bring our accounts into proper order.

While the effect of the payment of the large amount representing outstanding claims which is now being done as soon as claims are notified will be to reduce our assets, it will be borne in mind that this will, with other factors, very considerably reduce the net liability under the Company's Life Assurance policies. There will be a substantial shrinkage in the Company's premium income but the results of our operations since the recommencement of business have been most gratifying and there is reasonable hope that we shall be able to build up the premium income again rapidly in the near future.

Our progress to date has been due largely to the steps taken immediately after the Japanese surrender to re-establish our connections and to meet commitments and to meet the demand for insurance in the transitional period while normal services were being re-established in the Far East.

It will take some months to ascertain the Company's full actuarial position but there is every reason to believe that this will be at least as sound as it was prior to the outbreak of war.

Shareholders' Addresses

Our Share Register has been largely re-established but the absence of information as to shareholders' addresses has precluded us from sending notices to all shareholders with copies of the Statement of Affairs, but where possible this has been done. By way of confirmation, shareholders are asked to register their Shares at the office of the Company, and to notify the Company of their present addresses and of the details where scrip has been lost. Our intention is to release all share certificates.

In conclusion I should like to place on record our appreciation of the loyal co-operation of the Staff at Head Office and Branches, particularly those in liberated territories during the period immediately following the re-occupation when their deteriorated state of health and the confusion of the Company's records made their duties somewhat arduous.

Before proposing the adoption of the Report and Accounts I beg to propose the following Resolution:—That the action taken by the Directors and their appointments up to the date of this meeting be ratified and confirmed.

The motion was seconded by Mr. B. Johannessen and carried unanimously.

The Chairman then proposed the adoption of the Statement of Affairs as at Dec. 31, 1946, and upon the motion being seconded by Mr. N. V. A. Croucher, it was passed unanimously.

The re-election of the Board of Directors, who retired en bloc, was proposed by Mr. N. Dreyer, seconded by Mr.

"Empress" Brought Pots'n Pans

Coolies who sweated over some of the heavy personal baggage that was taken off the "Empress of Australia" were quite unaware that the extra heave and grunt was all a Colonial Office mistake.

It would be difficult to estimate the amount of ironmongery that wives brought with them, but there was a considerable amount. Buying it in England where electric irons and stoves are precious acquisitions was a job in itself.

The few who were told that coal was \$100 a ton in Hong Kong spent many weary days hunting up shops and dealers who had one item or the other.

They arrived in Hong Kong to discover that these things are cheaper and easier to find here. Pots and pans innumerable came by the "Empress." Most of the wives have since discovered that houseless, they may have to wait months or years before they have a chance to use them.

"Confidential"

The "lucky" few who were told about it, made sure first that they had made the desired acquisitions to their household utensils before passing on the "confidential" information. As all confidential information does somehow, this did get around, hence the grunting coolies.

Another discovery is that though electrical equipment bought in England is usable here—the Colonial Office wasn't absolutely sure—it is a difficult job for those who brought it out to find a plug in their rooms to make the gadgets work.

Teheran, Oct. 22.

Quarters close to the police stated today that on Government orders, the Police had confiscated in Teheran printing offices 100,000 leaflets said to have been ordered by influential mullahs asking the people to take no part in the elections as long as Azerbaijan province was under "foreign domination."—Reuter.

Lau Wing-chuen, and carried unusually.

Messrs. Lowe Hingham & Matthews and Messrs. Perry Smith & Co. were re-elected editors of the Company as a fee to be fixed by the Directors.

Supporting Mr. H. J. Armstrong in the chair were the Hon. Mr. Leo d'Almeida e Castro, Dr. J. W. Anderson, Mr. L. W. Shawan and Mr. H. B. Sturt (Directors) and Mr. E. R. Gildes (Secretary).—Mr. L. J. Telford (Director) was absent from the Colony.

Shareholders present were Messrs. N. V. A. Croucher, B. Johannessen, H. Dreyer, J. Dick, Lau Wing-chuen, F. G. Barrus and Teal Kai.

Swimming

The Committee of the Victoria Recreation Club has decided that it is not possible to hold the Colony Swimming Championships this year, but in their place a gala triangular tournament among teams representing Chung Shing, Lai-Tsun and V.R.C. to take place on Saturday at their bath, has been arranged.

The best civilian swimmers of the Colony of both sexes will participate and to assure keen competition, the various clubs have arranged elimination heats of their own.

V.R.C. will be represented by Wilfred Lawrence, J. Roza Pereira, H. Ballerand, F. Monteiro and the following ladies, the Misses Celeste Gutierrez, Joan Wong and Theresse Yvanovich.

Tickets will be sold at the gate but, owing to the present state of the club, accommodation will be limited.

RAF TEAM

The following will represent R.A.F. against Kwong Wah at Causeway Bay at 8.30 p.m. on Sunday.

Pope, Sinclair and Johnson, Anderson (Capt.) Cashman and Burns, Beech, Stickleland, Sewell, McKinnon and Eves.

Reserves:—Cpl. Jones, Merriman and Kildare.

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